

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2431

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to ensure that chaplains killed in the line of duty receive public safety officer death benefits.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 1, 2002

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to ensure that chaplains killed in the line of duty receive public safety officer death benefits.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Mychal Judge Police
5 and Fire Chaplains Public Safety Officers’ Benefit Act of
6 2002”.

1 **SEC. 2. BENEFITS FOR CHAPLAINS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1204 of the Omnibus
3 Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C.
4 3796b) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through
6 (7) as (3) through (8), respectively;

7 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(2) ‘chaplain’ means any individual serving as
10 an officially recognized or designated member of a
11 legally organized volunteer fire department or legally
12 organized police department, or an officially recog-
13 nized or designated public employee of a legally or-
14 ganized fire or police department who was respond-
15 ing to a fire, rescue, or police emergency;” and

16 (3) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (8), as
17 redesignated by paragraph (1), by inserting after
18 “firefighter,” the following: “as a chaplain,”.

19 (b) ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES.—Section 1201(a) of
20 such Act (42 U.S.C. 3796(a)) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “or” at the
22 end;

23 (2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-
24 graph (5); and

25 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
26 lowing new paragraph:

1 “(4) if there is no surviving spouse or surviving
2 child, to the individual designated by such officer as
3 beneficiary under such officer’s most recently exe-
4 cuted life insurance policy, provided that such indi-
5 vidual survived such officer; or”.

6 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
7 this section shall take effect on September 11, 2001, and
8 shall apply to injuries or deaths that occur in the line of
9 duty on or after such date.

○